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Executive Registry

78-2913

Office of the DD/S&T

TO: DDCI

SUBJECT: SSCI Panel

OLC #78-5342

REMARKS:

After our discussion yesterday, I called Bill Miller and responded to the several questions he had asked me at our meeting on 4 October. Subsequently I wrote the attached Memo for the Record.

Bill was quite relaxed and expressed the view that this panel would be handled in such a way as to cause a minimum of difficulty.

Les Dirks



DDS&T-4945-78

11 October 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telecon This Date with Bill Miller

- 1. As a follow up to my meeting last week with Bill Miller, I called him to respond to the several questions he asked me to pursue with the DCI and the DDCI having to do with the Advisory Panel the Senate Select Committee plans to establish. After having discussed this matter with the DDCI, I mentioned four points to Bill.
- 2. First I conveyed the Director's concern about the potential conflict of interest given that four of his proposed panel members are also formal consultants to CIA. Bill responded that he was aware of this situation and that he saw it as an advantage rather than a disadvantage in that these individuals would bring to the SSCI Panel the perspective and background built up over a number of years of interaction with the executive on intelligence reconnaissance matters. Bill said he certainly would endeavor to handle this Advisory Panel in a manner which did not generate serious issues of conflict of interest.
- 3. On the question of where the Panel should be set up as a joint DCI/SSCI Panel, I told Bill that the Director's view was that a joint committee had the potential of creating problems for him and if the Panel is to be established, then it must be an SSCI committee rather than a joint DCI/SSCI committee. Bill accepted that without comment.
- 4. I also passed along the DCI's view that he would not like to be put in a position of dealing directly with the Panel and responding to questions and tasking from the Panel, but that he would be prepared to respond to requests for information from the SSCI. Bill noted that that is his intention in any case.

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5. I also passed along the DDCI's suggestion to the effect that a brief note from Bill to the DCI describing his intentions on the purpose of the committee, its focus and scope might be a good idea. Bill indicated he already had such a note in preparation.

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LESLIE C. DIRKS
Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology

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